



May 11, 2011

For Immediate Release

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Log A Load For Kids celebrates 18 years and more than \$5.4 million

(LITTLE ROCK, Ark.) - Arkansas Log A Load For Kids committee members recently met at Arkansas Children's Hospital (ACH), for a campaign kickoff meeting and hospital tour. Since 1993, this grass-roots program has raised more than \$5.4 million for ACH. Last year, the group raised a record \$475,713 at events in Arkadelphia, Hermitage, Monticello, Russellville, Pine Bluff, Sheridan and Strong.

In 2011, Log A Load For Kids will continue raising money to fund a \$2 million commitment for a Trauma Unit that will be part of the under-construction South Wing, the largest construction project in the hospital's 100-year history, expected to open in June 2012.

"We are proud to support our world-class children's hospital and help make a difference in the lives of children and their families," said Anna Swaim, communications director for the Arkansas Forestry Association. "Log A Load is successful because the hard-working people in Arkansas's forestry community have an extraordinary commitment to children."

Following is a calendar of 2010 Log A Load events.

May 21
South Central Arkansas Event
Arkadelphia

August 6
Drew County Event
UA Monticello

September 24
Bradley County Event
Hermitage Community Center

October 15
Central Arkansas Event
Grant County Community Center
Sheridan

October 15
River Valley Event
L.V. Williamson Boys and Girls Club
Russellville

Arkansas is one of 27 states involved in the Log A Load For Kids program-a national sponsor of the Children's Miracle Network (CMN). This effort started in South Carolina in 1988 when two loggers gave a contribution equal to the value of a load of logs to their children's hospital. This act of kindness has spread, and each year, forestry groups raise millions of dollars nationwide for CMN hospitals.

Arkansas Log A Load For Kids has funded three endowments to support programs at ACH-pediatric cardiovascular surgery, Angel One helicopter transport, and radiology and imaging. For more information about Log A Load For Kids, contact the Arkansas Forestry Association at (501) 374-2441 or look online at www.arkforests.org.

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Photo caption: Log A Load volunteers toured Arkansas Children's Hospital during the 2011 campaign kickoff meeting. This Angel One helicopter bears the Log A Load For Kids name because the program funded a \$1.5 million endowment to support the transport program. Left to right: Harrell Wilson, Rison; Deana Taylor, Sheridan; Grant and Gay Pace, Monticello; Nancy Loomis, Warren; Mike Pennington, Monticello; Reggie Goodman, Monticello; Patsy Thornton, Warren; Allen and Tracy Farley, Russellville; Bobby Taylor, Sheridan; and Doug Hollinger, Sheridan.